

How To Handle Possible Anthrax Contaminated Packages/Mail

The following steps about what to do if you suspect mail is contaminated with anthrax.

- Do not handle the mail piece or package suspected of contamination.
- Notify your supervisor, who will immediately contact the Inspection Service, local police, safety office or designated person.
- Make sure that damaged or suspicious packages are isolated and the immediate areas are cordoned off.
- Ensure that all persons who have touched the mail piece wash their hands with soap and water.
- Call a postal inspector to report that you've received a parcel in the mail that may contain biological or chemical substances. An inspector will collect the mail, assess the threat situation and coordinate with the FBI.
- Designated officials will notify local, county and state health departments.
- Designated officials will notify the state emergency manager.
- List all persons who have touched the letter and/or envelope. Include contact information. Provide the list to the postal inspector.
- Place all items worn when in contact with the suspected mail piece in plastic bags and have them available for law enforcement agents.
- As soon as practical, shower with soap and water.
- If prescribed medication by medical personnel, take it until otherwise instructed or it runs out.
- Call the Center for Disease Control Emergency Response at (770) 488-7100 for answers to any questions.

Provided courtesy of the United States Postal Service.